

§ 404.409

(1) First used to reimburse the States for the amount of any federally administered State supplementary payments that would not have been made to you if the monthly social security benefits had been paid when regularly due instead of retroactively; and

(2) The remainder, if any, shall be covered into the general fund of the U.S. Treasury for the amount of SSI benefits that would not have been paid to you if the monthly social security benefits had been paid to you when regularly due instead of retroactively.

[47 FR 4988, Feb. 3, 1982]

§ 404.409 What is full retirement age?

Full retirement age is the age at which you may receive unreduced old-age, wife's, husband's, widow's, or widower's benefits. Full retirement age has been 65 but is being gradually raised to age 67 beginning with people born after January 1, 1938. See § 404.102 regarding determination of age.

(a) *What is my full retirement age for old-age benefits or wife's or husband's benefits?* You may receive unreduced old-age, wife's, or husband's benefits beginning with the month you attain the age shown.

If your birth date is:	Full retirement age is:
Before 1/2/1938	65 years.
1/2/1938—1/1/1939	65 years and 2 months.
1/2/1939—1/1/1940	65 years and 4 months.
1/2/1940—1/1/1941	65 years and 6 months.
1/2/1941—1/1/1942	65 years and 8 months.
1/2/1942—1/1/1943	65 years and 10 months.
1/2/1943—1/1/1955	66 years.
1/2/1955—1/1/1956	66 years and 2 months.
1/2/1956—1/1/1957	66 years and 4 months.
1/2/1957—1/1/1958	66 years and 6 months.
1/2/1958—1/1/1959	66 years and 8 months.
1/2/1959—1/1/1960	66 years and 10 months.
1/2/1960 and later	67 years.

(b) *What is my full retirement age for widow's or widower's benefits?* You may receive unreduced widow's or widower's benefits beginning with the month you attain the age shown.

If your birth date is:	Full retirement age is:
Before 1/2/1912	62 years.
1/2/1912—1/1/1940	65 years.
1/2/1940—1/1/1941	65 years and 2 months.
1/2/1941—1/1/1942	65 years and 4 months.
1/2/1942—1/1/1943	65 years and 6 months.
1/2/1943—1/1/1944	65 years and 8 months.
1/2/1944—1/1/1945	65 years and 10 months.
1/2/1945—1/1/1957	66 years.
1/2/1957—1/1/1958	66 years and 2 months.

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If your birth date is:	Full retirement age is:
1/2/1958—1/1/1959	66 years and 4 months.
1/2/1959—1/1/1960	66 years and 6 months.
1/2/1960—1/1/1961	66 years and 8 months.
1/2/1961—1/1/1962	66 years and 10 months.
1/2/1962 and later	67 years.

(c) *Can I still retire before full retirement age?* You may still elect early retirement. You may receive old-age, wife's or husband's benefits at age 62. You may receive widow's or widower's benefits at age 60. Those benefits will be reduced as explained in § 404.410.

[68 FR 4707, Jan. 30, 2003]

§ 404.410 How does SSA reduce my benefits when my entitlement begins before full retirement age?

Generally your old-age, wife's, husband's, widow's, or widower's benefits are reduced if entitlement begins before the month you attain full retirement age (as defined in § 404.409). However, your benefits as a wife or husband are not reduced for any month in which you have in your care a child of the worker on whose earnings record you are entitled. The child must be entitled to child's benefits. Your benefits as a widow or widower are not reduced below the benefit amount you would receive as a mother or father for any month in which you have in your care a child of the worker on whose record you are entitled. The child must be entitled to child's benefits. Subject to §§ 404.411 through 404.413, reductions in benefits are made in the amounts described.

(a) *How does SSA reduce my old-age benefits?* The reduction in your primary insurance amount is based on the number of months of entitlement prior to the month you attain full retirement age. The reduction is $\frac{5}{9}$ of 1 percent for each of the first 36 months and $\frac{5}{12}$ of 1 percent for each month in excess of 36.

Example: Alex's full retirement age for unreduced benefits is 65 years and 8 months. She elects to begin receiving benefits at age 62. Her primary insurance amount of \$980.50 must be reduced because of her entitlement to benefits 44 months prior to full retirement age. The reduction is 36 months at $\frac{5}{9}$ of 1 percent and 8 months at $\frac{5}{12}$ of 1 percent.

$$980.50 \times 36 \times \frac{5}{9} \times .01 = \$196.10$$

$$980.50 \times 8 \times \frac{5}{12} \times .01 = \$32.68$$